



**The California Inter-Tribal Water Commission**  
*Water is Sacred. Water is Life.*

3 January 2008

**Water  
Commissioners**

**Atta Stevenson**  
Laytonville  
Rancheria

**Mark Franco**  
Winnemem Wintu

**Randy Yonemura**  
ne Band of Miwok  
Indians

**Allen Adams**  
ited Auburn Indian  
Community

Melissa Miller-Henson  
California Marine Life Protection Act Initiative  
c/o California Resources Agency  
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311  
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Inter-Tribal Water Commission (ITWC) sends the following comments regarding the MLPA Initiative to the Blue Ribbon Task Force:

The ITWC having read the report find that the task force indicates they consulted with "15 federally recognized tribes" within the study area. We ask for a list of those tribes consulted and minutes from those meetings so that we can gauge the comments of the tribes consulted in order to accurately present our concerns and comments within the scope of your "consultation." As the ITWC represents many of the tribes of this area, we have canvassed them and cannot find any of our tribes who were consulted and any of their comments. Since the issue is of such importance to California's tribal people, we find that including our concerns and comments must be held as a number one commitment of the task force.

Additionally, we find that there is little or no mention of any "rock species" (mussels, limpets and other sustenance foods) that native people's rely on for their ceremonial and daily food needs. We find that the lifeways of traditional tribal people; their gathering practices and their relationship to the sea needs inclusion in this report in order for it to accurately reflect the needs and concerns of California natives.

We look forward to future communication and cooperative collaboration and believe that a true partnership between the agency and tribes will only serve to better assist our relatives in the sea and help guide this state into the next generations.

Please do not hesitate to contact the ITWC should you have any questions or concerns related to this letter and we hope to have the information we requested as soon as you can provide it to us.

Respectfully,

Inter-Tribal Water Commission

  
Atta P. Stevenson

  
Allen Adams

  
Randy Yonemura

  
Mark Franco



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